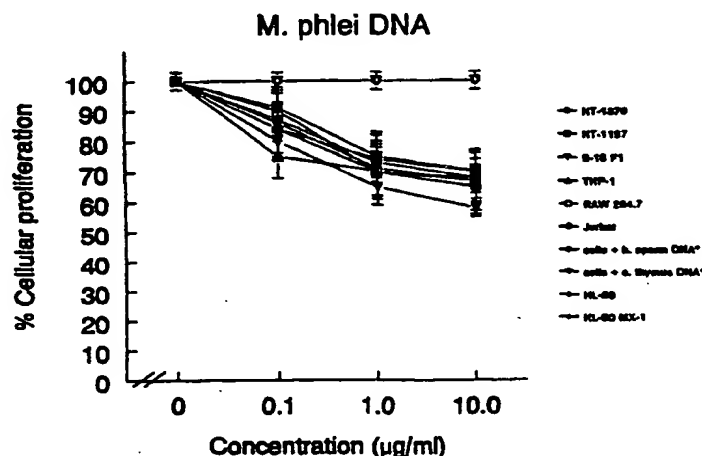




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(54) Title: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR REGULATING CELL PROLIFERATION AND CELL DEATH



## (57) Abstract

The present invention relates to a composition and method useful for regulating cell proliferation and cell death in a multicellular organism. The present invention particularly relates to a composition comprising a bacterial DNA (B-DNA) and a first pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the B-DNA induces a response in responsive cells of an animal. The present invention more particularly relates to a composition comprising a mycobacterial DNA (M-DNA) and a first pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the M-DNA inhibits proliferation of responsive cells of an animal, induces apoptosis in responsive cells of an animal, and stimulates responsive cells of the immune system of an animal to produce bioactive molecules. Methods of making the M-DNA composition and methods of using the M-DNA composition also are disclosed.